## Amendments to the Claims:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with <u>strikethrough</u>. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## 1-20 (canceled)

- 21. (currently amended) A turbine blade adapted for installation in a turbine engine having a stationary cylinder and a rotatably supported rotor, comprising:
  - a stator-side end located toward a stationary stator cylinder of the turbine engine;
  - a rotor-side end located toward an axial rotor of the turbine engine;
  - a leading edge located between the stator-side end and the rotor-side end; and
- a trailing edge located between the stator-side end and the rotor-side end and located down-stream of the leading edge with respect to a fluid flow direction,

wherein <u>both</u> the rotor-side and <u>the stator-side</u> ends <u>each respectively</u> have a negative sweep angle as measured between the instantaneous tangent of the blade surface and the fluid flow direction.

- 22. (previously presented) The turbine blade of claim 21, wherein negative sweep results in the direction of flow being rotated in a mathematically negative direction in order to achieve a coincidence of the direction of flow with respect to the instantaneous tangent of the blade surface.
- 23. (currently amended) The turbine blade of claim 21, wherein the negative sweep angle of the rotor-side and stator-side ends transition transitions into a positive sweep in a region between the leading edge and trailing edge.

- 24. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 21, wherein the rotor-side end negative sweep has a range between 0° and 90°.
- 25. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 24, wherein the rotor-side end negative sweep has a range between 50° and 80°.
- 26. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 21, wherein the stator-side end negative sweep has a range between 0° and 90°.
- 27. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 21, wherein the turbine blade is a stationary guide blade or a rotating blade.
- 28. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 21, wherein the leading edge is arranged in front of the trailing edge in the axial direction of flow at the statorside end or the rotor-side end.
- 29. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 21, wherein the turbine blade is arranged in a turbomachine.
- 30. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 21, wherein a second up-stream turbine guide blade is located at a constant axial distance from the turbine blade.
- 31. (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 30, wherein a trailing edge of the second up-stream guide blade is located at a constant axial distance from the leading edge of the blade at the rotor-side end.
  - 32. (currently amended) A turbine blade, comprising:
  - a stator-side end located toward a stationary stator cylinder of the a turbine;
  - a rotor-side end located toward an axial rotor of the turbine;
- a delivery side located between the stator-side end and the rotor-side end; and 2003P07721WOUS Response to 01-10-2008 OA DJR.rtf

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a suction side located between the stator-side end and the rotor-side end and located down-stream of the a leading edge of the blade with respect to a fluid flow direction,

wherein the rotor-side end is inclined toward the delivery side and the stator-side end is inclined with respect to athe fluid flow direction.

- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 32, wherein the 33. stator-side end is inclined at an angle between 0° and 90°.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 33, wherein the 34. stator-side end incline angle is 70°.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 32, wherein the 35. rotor-side end is inclined at an angle between 0° and 90° viewed in the direction of flow, where the rotor-side end incline angle is defined between the instantaneous surface tangent of the rotor and the auxiliary tangent.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 35, wherein the 36. rotor-side end incline angle is 75°.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 32, is a stationary 37. guide blade or a rotating blade.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 32, wherein the 38. turbine blade is arranged in a turbomachine.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 32, wherein a second 39. up-stream turbine guide blade is located at a constant axial distance from the turbine blade.
- (previously presented) The turbine blade as claimed in claim 39, wherein a 40. trailing edge of the second up-stream guide blade is located at a constant axial distance from the leading edge of the turbine blade at the rotor-side end.